Preliminary Amendment PUS 1609 (1578.702)

REMARKS

The amended listing of claims set forth herein include amendments to independent claims 1, 10, 21, and 26. And, the amended claim listing further includes amendments to dependent claims 5-7, and 16-18. Additionally, the listing includes newly-proposed claims 31-38.

Support for the amended and newly-proposed claims is found, for instance, in paragraphs 27, 47, 58, and 63 of the specification.

As now-presented, the claims are believed to be in condition for the Examiner's early examination and consideration for allowance. Such early action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 33,922

Dated: 28 Mar 05

SCHEEF & STONE, L.L.P. 5956 Sherry Lane, Suite 1400

Dallas, Texas 75225

Telephone: (214) 706-4201 Fax: (214) 706-4242

robert.kelly@scheefandstone.com